## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2007-41-W - ORDER NO. 2007-753

OCTOBER 23, 2007

IN RE: Application of Ashley Oaks Water System, Inc. for Approval of a Transfer of Its Water System to the City of Columbia.

ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on a petition from Stewart and Roberta Young for the Commission to settle a dispute with the Ashley Oaks Water System, Inc. ("Ashley Oaks") over easements to and ownership of a well operated by Ashley Oaks on the Youngs' property. Testimony on this matter was heard at a hearing in the Commission's offices on August 2, 2007. The Commission has carefully considered the request. While there does not appear to be a continuing need for the utility to have an easement to the well because service has been transferred to the City of Columbia and Ashley Oaks is therefore no longer certificated to serve customers with that well, it seems equally apparent that this Commission is not the best forum to determine issues of real property, equipment ownership, or the extinguishment of easements. We believe that this kind of determination is best left to a Master in Equity. As a result, the Youngs' petition is dismissed.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

G. O'Neal Hamilton, Chairman

ATTEST:

C. Robert Moseley, Vice Chairman